

Saipan Tribune


CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 18, 2003

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I N S I D E

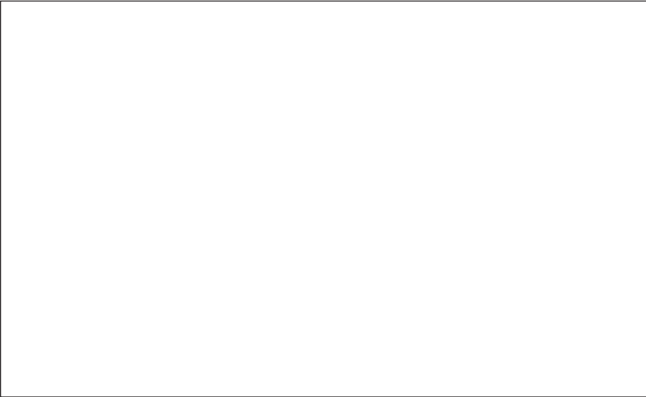
The logo for "Island Snapshots" is written in a stylized, cursive red font with a slight shadow effect, set against a yellow background.

The Saipan Tribune accepts contributed pictures of weddings, birthdays, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. Must include a caption containing complete details (a description of the event, identities of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place), the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the size of the picture. Contributors can e-mail their submissions to editor@saipantribune.com. To check if contributions are received, call 213-6287, 213-3448, or 213-8743.

cars


mcdo

WEATHER FORECAST




PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.




SAIPAN AND TINIAN
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




GUAM AND ROTA
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




PALAU
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.




POHNPEI
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 kt.




YAP AND ULITHI
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.






















KOSRAE
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.



CHUUK
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.



MAJURO
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

| CITY | FORECAST | HIGH | LOW |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|
|  Auckland | Cloudy | 61F (16C) | 49F (9C) |
|  Beijing | Sunny | 44F (7C) | 26F (-3C) |
|  Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | 74F (23C) | 61F (16C) |
|  Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 86F (30C) | 72F (22C) |
|  London, England | Cloudy | 56F (13C) | 45F (7C) |
|  Los Angeles | Cloudy | 69F (21C) | 51F (11C) |
|  Manila | Cloudy | 88F (31C) | 71F (22C) |
|  Melbourne | Sunny | 73F (23C) | 54F (12C) |
|  Miami | Partly Cloudy | 84F (29C) | 75F (24C) |
|  New York, NY | Cloudy | 52F (11C) | 48F (9C) |
|  Osaka | Rain | 54F (12C) | 46F (8C) |
|  Paris | Cloudy | 53F (12C) | 41F (5C) |
|  Pusan | Rain | 58F (14C) | 43F (6C) |
|  Rome | Partly Cloudy | 55F (13C) | 39F (4C) |
|  Salem, Oregon | Rain | 54F (12C) | 38F (3C) |
|  San Francisco | Sunny | 64F (18C) | 47F (5C) |
|  Seoul | Rain | 52F (11C) | 45F (7C) |
|  Tokyo | Rain | 55F (13C) | 49F (9C) |
|  Washington, DC | Cloudy | 60F (16C) | 48F (9C) |



tribune

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Los Angeles Times

ON MY MIND. . .

By RUTH L. TIGHE

Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.

Our World At War



2004 W-2CM forms distribution to start Monday

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to inform all CNMI employers that the distribution of the 2004 W-2CM forms and Instructions will begin on Monday, Dec. 13, 2004 from 8am to 4pm at the office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation located at the Dandan Commercial Center.

All businesses and employers are asked, to pick up forms during the regular business hours beginning Dec. 13, 2004. The deadline for filing 2004 W-2CM form is Feb. 28, 2005 at 4:30pm.

Saipan Community Church Christmas Bazaar today

The Saipan Community Church will be having a Christmas Bazaar tomorrow, Dec. 12, 2004, Sunday, from 11am to 3pm, at the Saipan Community School cafeteria, featuring crafts exhibit and food for sale. The public is invited.

Head Start Program enrollment starts

Enroll your child now! Head Start provides children with activities that help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. The Head Start staff recognize that, as parents,

you are the first and most important teachers of your children. They will welcome your involvement in Head Start activities, and will work as partners with you to help your child progress. Your child will leave Head Start more prepared for kindergarten, excited about learning, and ready to succeed.

Open slots are at the following centers:
San Antonio-PM session
San Vicente-PM session
Capitol Hill-PM session
Capitol Hill-AM session
Kagman III-PM session
Kagman II-PM & AM session
Chalan Kanoa-AM session

Free cooking, baking workshop

The Northern Marianas College CREES will be conducting Christmas in the Kitchen, a FREE workshop for those interested in giving gifts that are deliciously different!

“Learn to make yummy holiday food gifts everyone will love! Our experts will teach you simple ways to turn boring ingredients into beautiful presents,” NMC CREES said in a statement. “And it doesn’t end there! You will learn healthy holiday eating tips so you can indulge in without the bulge! We will show you samples of healthy food ideas for your next holiday party.”

The free workshop will be held Saturday, Dec. 18, from 9am to 12pm, at the NMC CREES Building G, As Terlaje Campus.

Register by calling 234-5498 Ext. 1711/1432. Ask for Joanne Ogo or Bonnie Royal.

Rota workshop on pesticide safety

Do you need to apply pesticides on farms or in houses? Plan to attend the Pesticide Safety Education Program at the Rota Campus of Northern Marianas College. This workshop covers four days from 8am to 4pm on Dec. 14 to 17.

After successfully completing the exam you will be able to apply for the Private Pesticide Applicator’s License, valid for three years in the CNMI.

For more information, call the Rota Campus of NMC at 532-9511 or 532-9477.

Dandan Elementary School PTA meeting

The Dandan Elementary School will be having its PTA meeting on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004 at 6:30pm in the school cafeteria.

DES principal Jonas Barcinas said the presence of parents and guardians at the meeting “will very much appreciated.”

APO anniversary and service set

The Alpha Phi Omega International (Philippines) Service Fraternity & Sorority – Saipan Alumni Association will celebrate its 79th founding anniversary on Dec. 16, to be held at Ysabel’s restaurant.

In line with the celebration, members of Alpha Phi Omega will initiate a service project (monetary assistance) to assist the

victims of the recent typhoon in the Philippines.

For more details, contact Vic Brana at 235-1229; Mike Cruz at 483-7171; or Sonny Pablo 888-7302.

Public notice to first time homeowners

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. said that it is extending the deadline for first time homeowners to submit housing loan applications for the Plumeria Estates.

NMHC encourages all interested applicants to pick up an application at its central office in Garapan, Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm, except holidays, and to have the applications submitted as soon as they can. For any inquiries on the matter, call one of NMHC’s loan officers at 234-9447/7689/7670.

Tax amnesty forms now available

The Division of Revenue and Taxation of the Department of

Finance said that the special tax returns for the Tax Amnesty Program under Public Law 14-28 are now available on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The division encourages all delinquent taxpayers with outstanding tax obligations to visit the division to avail themselves of the tax amnesty program. The deadline for applying for tax amnesty is Jan. 19, 2005.

Oleai Elementary School PTSA meeting set

The PTSA Officers of the Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of it students that the PTSA meeting will be on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004, 6pm, in the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited.

Project to upgrade CUC wastewater line begins

The project to upgrade the Beach Road Transmission Line has

already begun, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The utility agency said in a statement that the project took off on Dec. 6, 2004, and the estimated completion date is Jan. 6, 2006.

The project begins from the pump station near Pacific Islands Club northward and ends at the pump station right in front of Mount Carmel Church.

“This project includes the installation of a newer and bigger wastewater forcemain line to accommodate the much increased wastewater flow and to eliminate the problems of overflowing which residents and businesses within these areas are experiencing, particularly during heavy rains,” the CUC statement said. “CUC apologizes to all motorists for any inconvenience that this project may cause during its entire construction period.”

For any inquiry or concern with regards to this project contact the CUC Wastewater Division at 235-7025 Ext. 141, or the Trouble Desk at 235-0282 or 235-2282.

CUC ROTA

CARONEL

Good Housekeeping

*Cooking with
Chef Singh*



The Good Life

Md. lawyer makes a case for civility

By CAMERON W. BARR
THE WASHINGTON POST

In this age of epithets on the Senate floor and brawls on the basketball court, Steven Michael Selzer is a crusader for civility. He wants you to slow down and think more about others. It will be good for you, he argues, and good for all of us.

Selzer often seems formal, even a little stiff. He tends to keep his suit coat buttoned, and he smiles a lot. To all appearances, he is a mild-mannered Rockville, Md., lawyer.

But if your style is to forego politeness and consideration, you might want to make sure that Selzer isn't in the vicinity. He is a nice guy, to be sure, but he also has a backbone.

This year he received a call from a lawyer who was "disrespectful, loud, out of control and then profane." Selzer waited a week, hoping the lawyer would offer an apology. When nothing happened, Selzer sent a letter to the lawyer, demanding one. "(Y)our demeanor was despicable," he wrote. He sent a copy to the lawyer's managing partner.

He cited the code of civility of the Bar Association of Montgomery County. Selzer knows the code well because he helped write it. So did the managing partner, who called Selzer to apologize on the offending lawyer's behalf. "Cross the line," says Selzer, "and you have to pay a price."

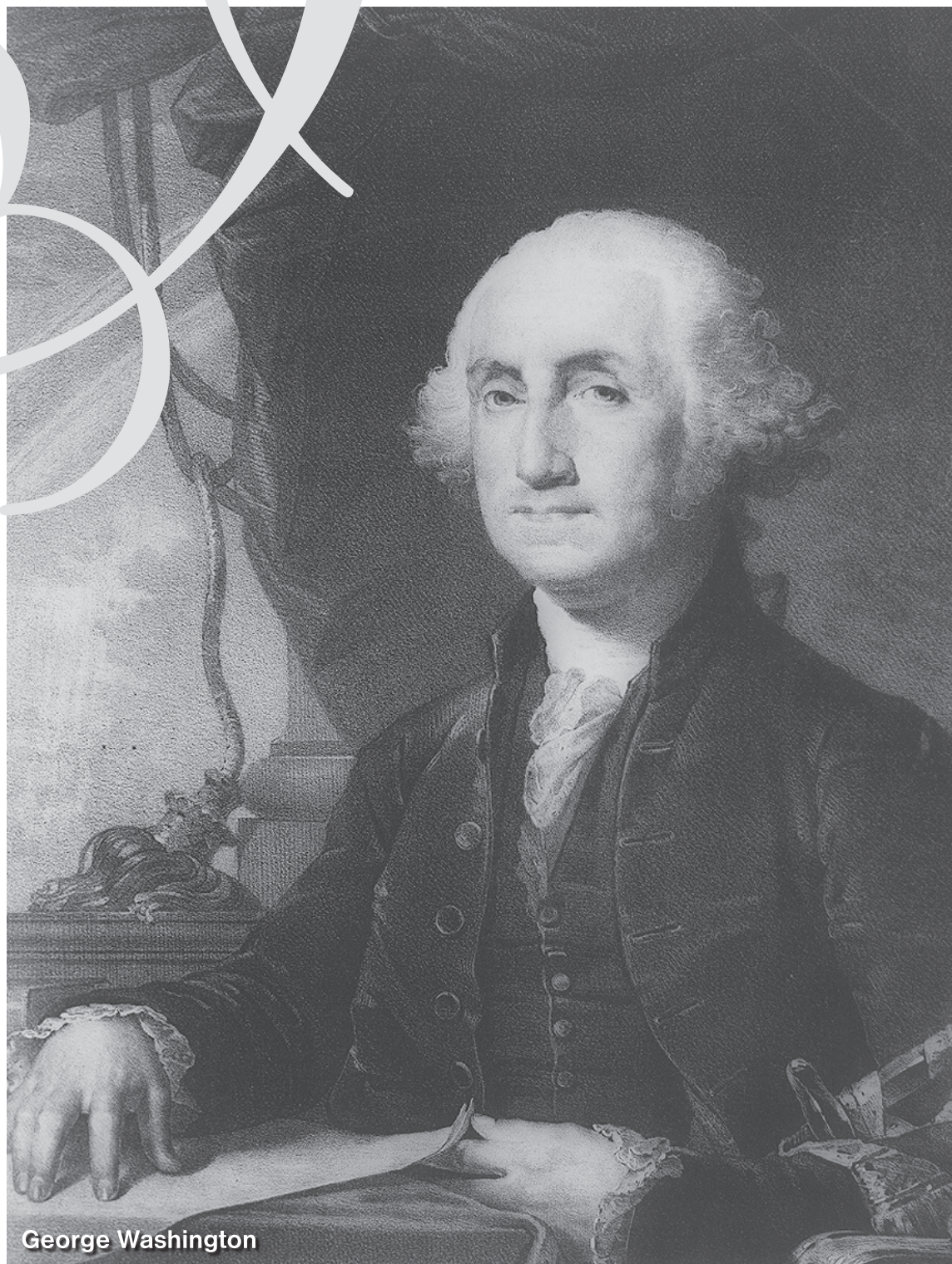
Selzer, 57, who has been practicing law in Maryland for 32 years, does not want only lawyers to be nicer to one another. "The whole country is hurting for civility," he says.

In 2000 he published "By George!: Mr. Washington's Guide to Civility Today," a slim volume that reproduces 110 rules George Washington wrote out as a teenager about 250 years ago. Selzer likes to quote the final rule: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience."

Some, such as Rule 13, seem out of date: "Kill no vermin, as fleas, lice, ticks, etc., in the sight of others." A few are timeless. "Speak not evil of the absent, for it is unjust," reads Rule 89.

In what some might consider a breach of civility among writers and publishers, Selzer's version of Washington's rules does not acknowledge that they had been previously published. The historian Richard Brookhiser put them out in 1997, in an equally slim volume titled "Rules of Civility." The books are similar, with Brookhiser and Selzer each offering brief comments on Washington's maxims. Selzer says he is not sure whether he was aware of Brookhiser's book when he published his.

Selzer also does not indicate that historians doubt that the young



George Washington

Washington authored the rules. As etiquette expert Judith Martin observes in her 2003 book "Star-Spangled Manners," "these rules ... had been written by French Jesuits, and he learned them from a well-used schoolbook translation." Brookhiser writes that it is not clear how Washington encountered the rules.

Selzer observes that "no one can state with certainty" how Washington came to write the rules and says he believes they are a compilation of existing materials and Washington's thoughts. In any event, he says, he was interested in publishing the rules as a contemporary teaching tool, rather than as a historical document.

Use them to teach, he does. In September he visited a bank in his county to tell its staff members how promoting civility might help prevent sexual harassment in the workplace. "Please understand that civility ties in directly to what I'm talking about—which is a violation of the law," he warned the bank employees.

His campaign for civility takes many forms. The book has led to speaking engagements and a few broadcast appearances. Last year he wrote an article in the Maryland Bar Journal promoting civility among lawyers. He has completed a manuscript on civility in business settings and is working on a new version of Washington's rules, but with a better publicity campaign.

"By George!" is not his first book. In the mid-1990s he published "Life's Little Relaxation Book," a compendium of pithy, soothing instructions. "Get in bed early on a winter's night" is one. "Read to children and watch the expressions on their faces" is another. In the book are the seeds of his civility campaign. "Let it go; be tolerant," is a third bit of advice.

During a visit to a historical society in Charleston, S.C., in 1998, Selzer found a dusty parchment inscribed by George Washington containing the 110 rules. Even though Selzer has bachelor's and law degrees from George Washington University, he had never

heard of the rules. A few weeks later he was using reference books in the Rockville library to clarify the meaning of Washington's 18th-century English. The rules gave him the idea for his second book.

Selzer has experienced the absence of civility. "I grew up in central New Jersey, a Mafia training ground, where I saw people basically extorting money from others or fighting with others on a daily basis," he says. One day, when Selzer was 14 or 15, a bully with a knife asked him for his lunch money. Selzer said no, and was cut in the ensuing scuffle. But the bully emerged from the fight in worse shape. It was a lesson in the need to match a principled stand with toughness.

In what is certainly a civil act, Selzer donates a share of his earnings from "By George!" and "Life's Little Relaxation Book" to cancer research.

Civility takes time, Selzer says. When he asks you how you are, he pauses. He wants to hear the answer.

George Washington's rules of civility

Rule 1 Every action done in company ought to be done with some sign of respect to those that are present.

Rule 11 Shift not yourself in the sight of others nor gnaw your nails.

Rule 22 Shew not yourself glad at the misfortune of another, though he were your enemy.

Rule 23 When you see a crime punished, you may be inwardly pleased, but always shew pity to the suffering offender.

Rule 35 Let your discourse with men of business be short and comprehensive.

Rule 38 In visiting the sick, do not presently play the physician if you be not knowing therein.

Rule 49 Use no reproachful language against anyone, neither curse nor revile.

Rule 56 Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.

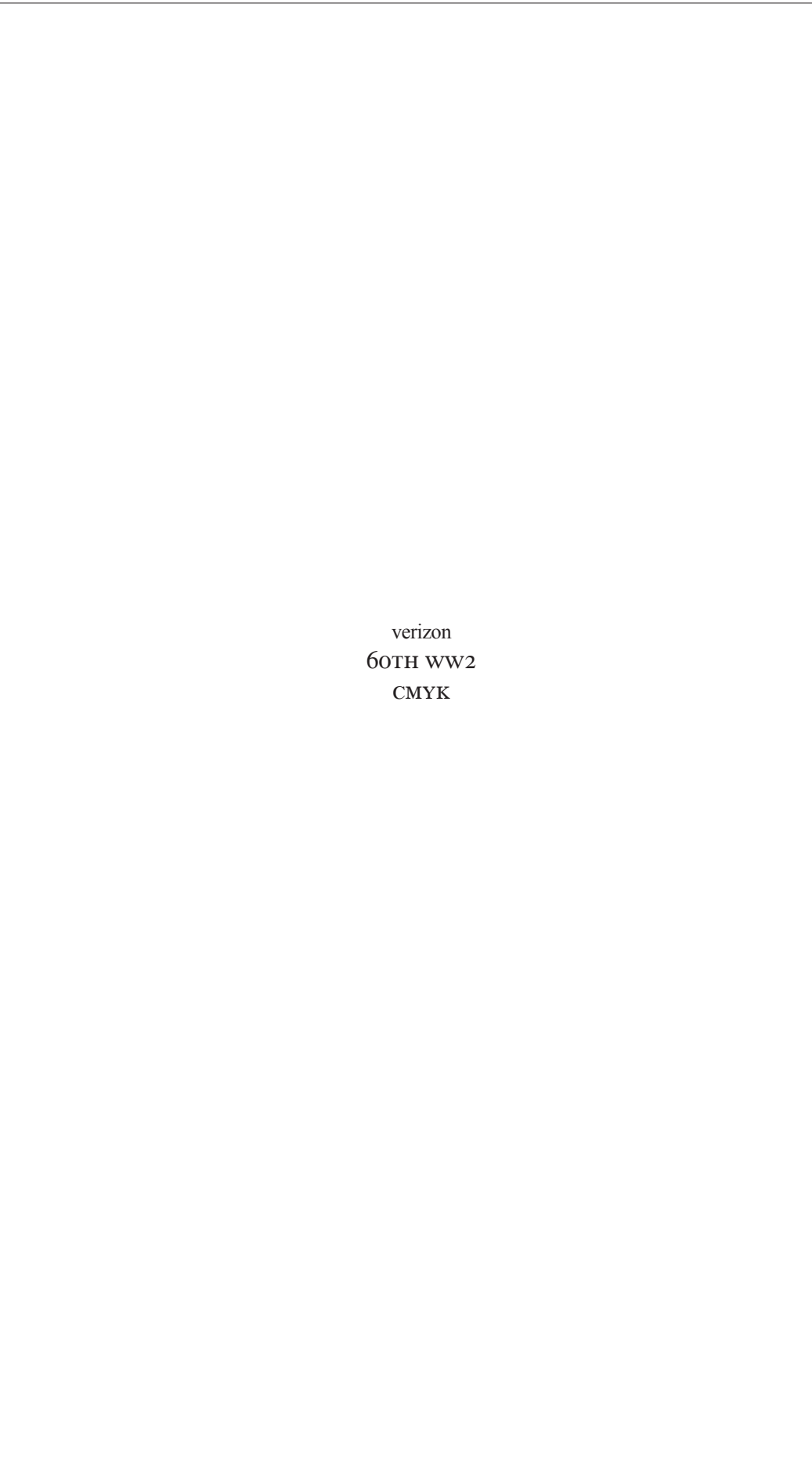
Rule 70 Reprehend not the imperfections of others, for that belongs to parents, masters, and superiors.

Rule 81 Be not curious to know the affairs of others, neither approach those that speak in private.

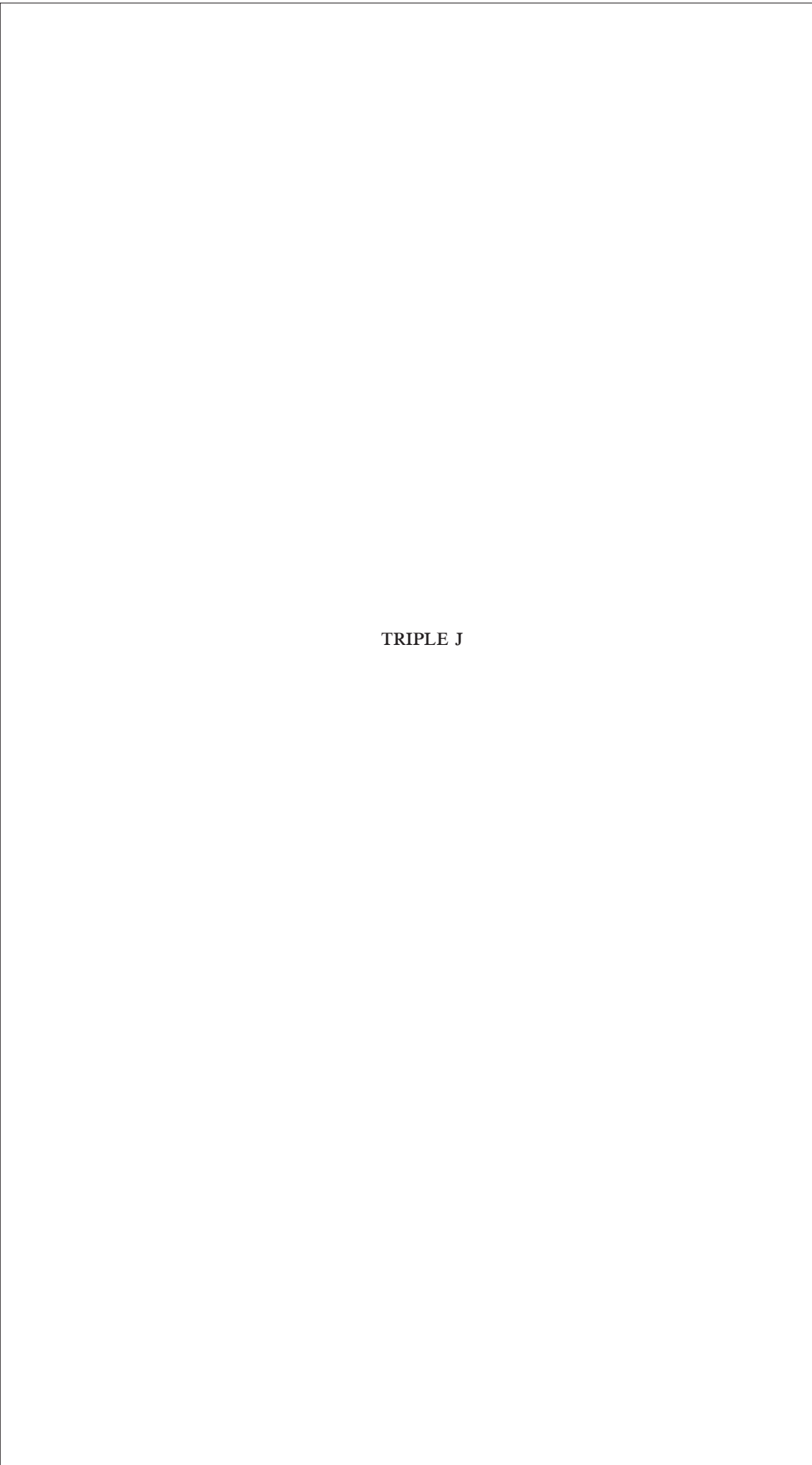
Rule 90 Being set at meat, scratch not, neither spit, cough, nor blow your nose except when there's a necessity for it.

Rule 110 Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

SOURCE: "By George! Mr. Washington's Guide to Civility Today" by Steven Michael Selzer. (The Washington Post)



verizon
60TH WW2
CMYK



TRIPLE J

The Good Life







stevedore

hermans
+RED

United States

Across the Globe

Life & Style

Japanese animation catching on in US

Animation in America once meant Mickey Mouse, Snow White and Winnie the Pooh. These days, it's just as likely to mean Japanese fighting cyborgs, doe-eyed schoolgirls and sinister monsters—thanks in large part to people like John Ledford.

The 36-year-old American is one of the top foreign distributors of Japanese "manga" comics and animation, known as "anime," building his fortune on a genre that is rapidly changing from a niche market to a mass phenomenon.

Ledford, who's so busy his dubbing studio in Houston runs 24 hours a day, says the key to the success of Japanese manga and anime in the United States is their widely varied, cutting-edge subject matter.

"We're kind of like the anti-Disney," Ledford, a bespectacled, fast-talking man with a friendly smile, said during a recent visit to Tokyo. "Disney is very family type. We are appealing to the video-game, Play-Station, Generation X, Generation Y kind of crowd in America."

Although American animation releases, such as "Toy Story," "Shrek" and "The Incredibles," continue to wow audiences, they are largely aimed at children. Japanese anime and manga spans a wide range of topics, including science fiction, horror-thrillers and soap-operatic melodrama. At American video-rental shops, whole shelves are taken up by titles like "Ninja Resurrection," "Neon Genesis Evangelion" and "Bubblegum Crisis Tokyo 2040."

One animation, "Ghost in the Shell" takes place in a futuristic world, where memories become individual identities that jump like spirits from one mechanical body to another, a dark science fiction that raises questions about death and the metaphysical threat from technology.

Another, "Apocalypse Meow,"

chronicles the adventures of three brave rabbits fighting as American soldiers in the Vietnam War. The rabbits tromp through jungles dressed in camouflage and wielding machine guns, taking part in nightmarish battles amid smoking explosions and hovering helicopters.

Kathie Borders, who runs Wizzywig Collectibles, a store devoted to manga and anime in Ann Arbor, Mich., which carries Ledford's videos and books, says the popularity of Pokemon and YuGiOh!—perhaps the best-known characters—has propelled a boom in anime that's not only for the usually male, 20-something video-game-loving crowd. It's now drawing fans of all ages, and increasingly, women.

"They're fascinated by the difference in the culture," Borders said in a telephone interview, giving as an example stories starring Japanese schoolgirls. "They like reading something that's not the normal, run-of-the-mill story that they might have been used to."

The heroines may wear uniforms and go to schools that have strict rules compared to American schools, but universal themes, such as falling in love and growing up, transcend cultural boundaries, she said.

Ledford, who speaks a little Japanese, started out by bringing video games from Japan to the United States after dropping out of college. He later expanded into manga and anime.

His first anime deal was in 1992 for the cartoon version of his best-selling video-game "Devil Hunter Yoko," about a teenager who defeats goblins—an investment returned in full in just three months. More recently, Ledford's A.D. Vision Inc. has been taking part in funding for Japanese animation. His film unit now records \$150 million in annual sales.

Ledford also has 1,000 manga books



This illustration distributed in Tokyo Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2004, by A.D. Vision Inc., a Houston, Texas-based distributor of Japanese "manga" comics and animation, shows characters of "Full Metal Panic!" The elite soldier Sosuke Sagara, center, and high schoolgirl Chidori Kaname, right with a smiling face, are the main characters. Sagara, who belongs to a special force that fights terrorism across the globe, pretends to be a student at Kaname's school in Japan as he is assigned to protect her from a terrorist group.

under license and publishes Newtype USA, the English-language version of a top manga and animation monthly

magazine. His Anime Network moved from video-on-demand to a national cable network in July.

Manga and anime may not be for everyone with their heavy dosage of corny romanticism, blood-splattering violence and pubescent sense of erotica. But both are clearly no longer just for Japanese geeks as their counterparts in the United States, Europe and other parts of Asia simply can't get enough.

Shoji Udagawa, vice president at Kadokawa Pictures Inc., a major Japanese film studio, said Ledford understands anime and can help create works that will appeal to Americans as well as to Japanese. Americans tend to like anime with a darker ambience such as those with robots, he said.

"He fits in well with Japanese but he has something that Japanese don't have," Udagawa said.

Bandai Co. Ltd., a major Japanese toymaker, and electronics and entertainment giant Sony Corp. also distribute anime in the United States, such as "Gundam," "Astro Boy" and "Cowboy Bebop." But the established companies tend to look for sure winners, Ledford says, while he offers a broader lineup.

Pokemon alone earned about \$29 billion around the world since 1997, and the U.S. anime business, including licensed character goods and box-office revenue, is estimated at \$4 billion a year, according to the Japanese government.

Works like "Spirited Away" by Hayao Miyazaki, which won an Oscar and the Golden Bear award at the Berlin International Film Festival, are helping raise anime's reputation.

Kelly Lamb, a 14-year-old Ann Arbor high school student, has never been to Japan but is an avid anime fan and sometimes makes her own anime-inspired costumes.

"It's so funny and so hysterical," she said of "Excel Saga," one of her favorites. "If you're really feeling down, it's so funny it cheers you up." (AP)

'Desperate Housewives' wash out reality

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Reality television's survivors and junior Trumps have been bumped from the top of the water-cooler agenda—and all it took was four volatile homemakers.

"Desperate Housewives" has unexpectedly stolen some of reality's gloss and resurrected the prime-time soap opera genre long absent from the broadcast networks.

ABC's Sunday night drama about suburbia and its scandalous ways was the No. 1-rated show in its last airing, drawing more than 27 million viewers and eclipsing shows such as "Survivor" and "The Apprentice."

Real, schmeal. And enough with the endless loop of police and forensic dramas. It's the crimes and misdemeanors of Susan, Lynette, Bree and Gabrielle that fascinate viewers, as top-dog "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" was bumped to No. 2 behind "Desperate Housewives" the week of Nov. 22-28. (It was pre-empted Sunday.)

"I haven't missed an episode," said fan Andrea Hawkins, 31, of Denver.

"I've been anxious for any good show to get back on the air. I'm so sick of reality TV. ... There's the 'CSIs' and 'Law & Order,' but it's nice to have more of a drama on."

Fond memories of past prime-time serials, such as "Melrose Place" and '80s blockbusters "Dallas" and "Dynasty," which Hawkins recalls watching as a youngster, have lingered. Now she has another to savor.

"Desperate Housewives" is "comedy, it's dark, it's a drama, it's a soap opera. It's very well-written," Hawkins said, rattling off a list of virtues.

Web sites are abuzz with talk of Wisteria Lane's fictional residents just as online chatterers dissected the behavior of Omarosa Manigault-Stallworth or Richard Hatch.

"The timing is right for something that people wanted to sink their teeth into in terms of character," said Showtime President Bob Greenblatt. "I lived through the real fun times of 'Beverly Hills 90210' and 'Melrose Place,' two shows I was involved in

when I was at Fox, and I remember those Monday night 'Melrose' parties when people would watch it together and talk about it."

"Desperate Housewives" was promoted from the start as a "fun, sexy soap," said ABC marketing executive Mike Benson. One telling promotional tool: Plastic bags distributed through dry cleaners and bearing the line, "Everybody has a little dirty laundry."

In mere weeks, the ABC series' title has become pop-culture shorthand—a magazine cover story on Jennifer Lopez and new husband Marc Anthony bore the headline "Desperate Housewife?"—and the show itself has drawn controversy as well as the stellar ratings that are a big part of long-dormant ABC's awakening.

A National Review essay last month praised it as "gloriously entertaining chick-TV" and its characters as symbols of traditional values despite their misbehavior.

On the Christian Broadcasting Net-

work's Web site, however, a pastor's wife faulted the show for its "themes of sex, betrayal and secrets woven throughout the story line."

Even the promotion can be brazen. A "Monday Night Football" spot that featured a seductive, towel-clad Nicollette Sheridan (who plays single swinger Edie) provoked debate and government attention.

But the show doesn't approach the rawness of such cable fare as "The Sopranos." Marc Cherry, the "Desperate Housewives" creator whose got his start on "The Golden Girls" sitcom, said his drama was rejected by HBO as too tame.

"I don't tend to write nudity or with foul language. ... It's the network version of what an HBO show is," Cherry said.

The ABC drama's place in history is more likely to be secured by its respect for retro.

Reality's rise in the last few years displaced many scripted series, especially sitcoms and dramas that didn't

fall into a franchise category such as police procedurals, said Tim Brooks, co-author (with Earle Marsh) of "The Complete Directory to Prime Time Network and Cable TV Shows."

Procedurals, he said, are "a little bit soulless": Only rarely does "CSI" or "Law & Order" track a character's personal life. In what may signal a shift, Thursday's episode of crime drama "Without a Trace" on CBS focuses on a detective's marital strife.

With "Desperate Housewives," however, it's all dish, all the time. Two cast members even boast soap credentials—Marcia Cross, who plays the straight-laced Bree, was on "Melrose Place" from 1992 to '97 and Sheridan was part of the "Knots Landing" ensemble from 1986 to '93.

"I think viewers were missing that (the emotional involvement)," Brooks said, adding that character dramas have been kept alive through what he calls "kids' soaps" on younger-skewing networks like WB ("Smallville," "Gilmore Girls.")

Wal-Mart sued over Evanescence lyrics

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (AP)—Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which promotes itself as a seller of clean music, deceived customers by stocking compact discs by the rock group Evanescence that contain the f-word, a lawsuit claims.

The hit group's latest CD and DVD, "Anywhere But Home," don't carry parental advisory labels alerting potential buyers to the obscenity. If they did, Wal-Mart wouldn't carry them, according to the retailer's policy.

But the lawsuit claims Wal-Mart knew about the explicit lyrics in the song, "Thoughtless," because it censored the word in a free sample available on its Web site and in its stores.

The complaint, filed Thursday in Washington County Circuit Court, seeks an order requiring Wal-Mart to either censor or remove the music from its Maryland stores. It also seeks damages of up to \$74,500 for each of the thousands of people who bought the music at Wal-Marts in Maryland.

"I don't want any other families to get this, expecting it to be clean. It needs to be removed from the shelves to prevent other children from hearing it," said plaintiff Trevin Skeens of Brownsville.

Skeens said he and his wife, Melanie, let their daughter buy the music for her 13th birthday and were shocked when they played it in their car while driving home.

Moore campaigns for People's Choice Award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Filmmaker Michael Moore is back on the campaign trail trolling for votes—this time, for the People's Choice Awards.

His documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11"—an unlikely summer blockbuster—was one of the films selected in the "favorite movie" category of the annual populist prize ceremony. On Thursday he posted a letter on his Web site to mobilize fans to cast their ballots for the film.

"Now, normally I wouldn't make a very big deal out of something like this," Moore wrote. He said he was inspired to make his appeal after a group of leading Republicans took out ads in USA Today and Daily Variety that he said included "a not-so-subtle threat to the Academy Awards voters that, in essence, said don't even THINK about nominating 'Fahrenheit 9/11' for Best Picture."

Moore said the People's Choice nomination proves the message of his film still resonates with people across the country, even though President Bush won re-election.

"Fahrenheit 9/11" attacked Bush's rationale for the war in Iraq and accused him and his administration of fostering fear for political gain.



Members of the band Evanescence pose on the red carpet during The 2004 Billboard Music Awards Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2004 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Wal-Mart, of Bentonville, Ark., has no immediate plans to pull the CDs from its shelves, spokesman Guy Whitcomb told The (Hagerstown) Herald-Mail. He said the company will investigate the allegations. No hearing dates have been set.

"While Wal-Mart sets high standards, it would not be possible to eliminate every image, word or topic that an individual might find objectionable," Whitcomb told the newspaper.

He told the Herald-Mail that

the song sample online was censored by Walmart.com, a separate division of Wal-Mart.

Whitcomb didn't return telephone calls Friday from The Associated Press.

The lawsuit also names as defendants Wind-up Records LLC, the New York-based company that recorded the music and decided not to apply parental-advisory stickers; and distributor BMG Entertainment, a subsidiary of Sony BMG Music Entertainment, of New York.

Sony BMG declined to comment on the lawsuit. Wind-up didn't return calls from the AP.

The Skeens' lawyer, Jon D. Pels of Bethesda, said he aims to "take this case national, even if that means going state by state."

He dismissed Whitcomb's suggestion that Wal-Mart stores didn't know about the censored version of the song. "They are a multimillion-dollar corporation and they certainly can communicate among their various entities," he said.

Soul legend Brown has prostate cancer

NEW YORK (AP)—James Brown, the "Godfather of Soul" and a legend in rap, rock and funk, has announced that he has prostate cancer.

In a statement released to The Associated Press on Friday morning, Brown, 71, said that he will undergo surgery for the ailment on Dec. 15.

"I have overcome a lot of things in my life. I will overcome this as well," Brown said.

Brown, best known for seminal hits like "I Feel Good," "Please, Please, Please," and "Cold Sweat," is also a diabetic. Dubbed the hardest working man in show business, he just finished a two-week Canadian tour on Thursday



night. He is expected to spend three weeks recovering from the procedure.

Earlier this year, he faced other troubles when he was charged with domestic abuse after an altercation with his wife. The allegation was resolved when he failed to contest the charge.

Brown is due to release an autobiography next month. Besides promoting the project with a slew of appearances, he still plans a tour of Asia and Australia early next year.

James Brown performs at the Olympic Flame concert in London on June 26, 2004.

Oprah, Cruise to co-host Nobel concert

OSLO, Norway (AP)—Tom Cruise and Oprah Winfrey will continue the tradition of bringing a superstar shine to dark December nights in Norway when the pair hosts the annual Nobel Peace Prize Concert.

The Saturday concert, held to honor Kenyan environmentalist Wangari Maathai, will also feature musical artists such as Joss Stone, Andrea Bocelli, Diana Krall, Cyndi Lauper and Patti LaBelle.

The 64-year-old Maathai, Kenya's deputy environment minister, was honored as found-

er of the Green Belt Movement, which has sought to empower women, improve the environment and fight corruption in Africa for almost 30 years.

Winfrey said it was a "great pleasure" to celebrate "the first African woman recipient of one of the most meaningful awards of our time."

"Wangari Maathai is a true inspiration because she uses her life to benefit others, from fervently fighting for women's rights to literally turning the earth to improve living conditions in Africa," Winfrey said.

Cruise said he was "exceptionally proud" to pay tribute to Maathai.

"Wangari is a real example of what one person, determined to help her fellow man, can accomplish," he said. "She has demonstrated that change in conditions can occur simply by one's willingness to roll up their sleeves and do something about it."

The Nobel concert, which will be carried live in more than 100 countries, will be broadcast in the United States Dec. 23 on E! Entertainment Television.

Tale of teen hanky-panky should be told to parents

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old daughter, "Dena," is in the same grade as her friend "Amanda." Amanda has a sister, "Barb," who turned 15 last month. Amanda told my Dena that Barb's 16-year-old boyfriend has been sneaking in Barb's bedroom window several nights a week for a while now, after their mother and stepfather have gone to bed. Amanda also confided that Barb told her that she and the boyfriend have had sex a couple of times, including before Barb turned 15.



Dear Abby

I am not close to the mother and stepfather, although I do run into them at school functions. I wouldn't begin to know how to approach the parents and tell them what I know. Should I be concerned with what's happening in other people's homes after they've gone to bed? Or should I keep this to myself and let them find out the hard way down the road?

ANOTHER MOTHER IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR MOTHER: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Call that girl's mother and tell her what you know and how you learned it. If what your daughter's friend confided is true, they need bars on the windows and a chastity belt for Barb (and some serious counseling).

DEAR ABBY: I work in the mailroom of a large company. Every day we deliver the mail that is sent to the people who work here. On some occasions, I deliver mail to people who have private offices. Sometimes, these people are having a meeting in their office and do not shut the door. When this happens, should I just give them their mail, or wait until they are finished talking to that person? I'm asking because sometimes I get dirty looks from those people while I'm giving them their mail—like, "How dare you come into my office while someone is in here!"

Abby, I don't talk to them and I try to stay out of their way, because I know that someone walking in can be distracting. What is the correct mailroom etiquette?

CONFUSED DELIVERER

DEAR CONFUSED: The universal signal for "Do Not Disturb" is a closed door. If the door is open, then you should be free to enter. However, since you are being given dirty looks for making deliveries while there is a conversation in progress, the next time the person is alone, ask what he or she would prefer under those circumstances. Another suggestion would be to stand quietly in the doorway for a few seconds and wait for the person to acknowledge you and motion you in.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Kurt" for 13 years. It's a second marriage for both of us. Kurt consistently fails to introduce me at social functions and leaves me to fend for myself. At the last party we attended, he left me to talk to the most attractive blond woman there—someone we had both just met. At the end of the evening he hugged her and told her to call when she's back in town.

I told Kurt his behavior hurt my feelings, and if he respected me he wouldn't act this way. He says I'm out of line. What do you think?

SOCIALLY ABANDONED IN BEND, ORE.

DEAR SOCIALLY ABANDONED: Your husband appears to suffer from social amnesia—he "forgets" he's married when the two of you go out. You are not out of line; he is. If he had any consideration for your feelings, he would at least check back every 15 or 20 minutes to see if you're still breathing. Shame on him.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



Wizards edge Knicks, 106-104



WASHINGTON (AP)—Brendan Haywood atoned for two missed free throws by converting a three-point play off the Wizards' 27th offensive rebound with 7.1 seconds remaining Friday, giving Washington a 106-104 victory over the New York Knicks.

"Missing those free throws really hurt. ... You have to keep your mind clear, because you never know how it's going to come back," Haywood said. "Tonight it just came back on me, and I was able to make the play."

Haywood's first points of the second half came after he missed a pair from the line with 55 seconds remaining. The Knicks had two final chances, but Nazr Mohammed missed a tough shot in traffic and Kurt Thomas failed to put in the rebound as time expired.

"I got a good look at it and missed the shot," Mohammed said. "Besides an open layup, you can't ask for a better shot. I got a wide open shot within a foot in the paint."

Antawn Jamison had 25 points and 13 rebounds for the Wizards, who have won eight of 10. Haywood, an unstoppable force in the first half before disappearing for much of the second, had 17 points and 14 rebounds, and Gilbert Arenas had 20 points and seven assists.

Nuggets 101, Raptors 87

In Toronto, Carmelo Anthony had 28 points, nine assists and eight rebounds, and Nene had a season-high 21 points to lead Denver past Toronto.

Kenyon Martin added 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Nuggets, who have won four straight.

With regular starting center Marcus Camby sidelined by a bruised tailbone, Nene went 9-for-10 from the field in a season-high 40 minutes. Denver shot 54 percent compared to 38 for Toronto.

Rafer Alston had 25 points for the Raptors, who have lost six straight.

Heat 92, Grizzlies 84

In Miami, Dwyane Wade narrowly missed a triple-double and Shaquille O'Neal scored 11 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter as Miami downed Memphis.

O'Neal made four of his five shot attempts and added two assists in the final 12 minutes, a stark difference from the middle two quarters when the Grizzlies held him scoreless and he missed the only three shots he tried.

Wade had 26 points, nine assists and nine rebounds—coming up just short in a bid for what would have been the fifth triple-double in Heat history and just the second in the last 10 seasons. He and O'Neal combined for 19 of Miami's 23 fourth-quarter points.

Nets 94, Hornets 91, OT

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Jason Kidd hit a go-ahead basket early in overtime, as the Nets denied former coach Byron Scott a win in his return to New Jersey.

The Nets rallied from a seven-point deficit with 2:10 to play in the fourth quarter and sent the Hornets to their season-high ninth straight loss and 17th in 18 games.

Richard Jefferson scored 24 points and Eric Williams added 19 for the Nets, who had 30 turnovers. Kidd, playing in his third game since returning from knee surgery, had eight points and eight assists in a season-high 28 minutes.

Hawks 88, Pistons 72

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, rookie Josh Smith replaced Kenny Anderson at point guard and had career highs of 12 points and four blocks in his first NBA start as Atlanta beat Detroit.

The Hawks, who led by as many as 29, won for just the second time in 12 games and held Detroit to a franchise record for fewest points in a home game.

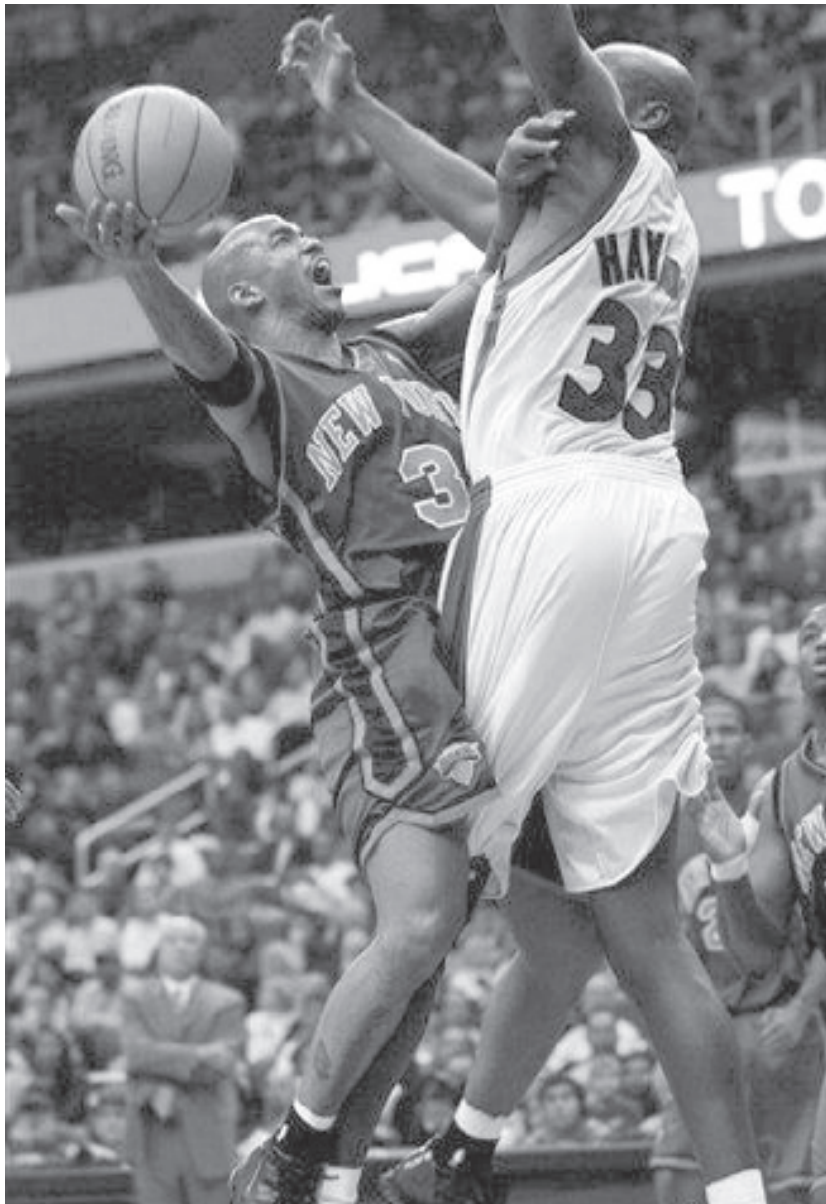
Tony Delk and Predrag Drobnjak had 16 points each for Atlanta, which had five players in double figures. Detroit's Richard Hamilton led all scorers with 24.

The Hawks replaced Anderson in the starting lineup with the 6-foot-9 Smith, and Boris Diaw was Atlanta's shortest starter at 6-foot-8. The big lineup paid immediate dividends, as Smith blocked three shots in the first quarter and the Hawks shot 66.7 percent on their way to a 32-20 lead.

Timberwolves 113, Kings 105

In Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett scored a season-high 35 points with 18 rebounds and nine assists to lead Minnesota over Sacramento.

Playing before their largest crowd of the season, the Wolves trailed for most of the first three quarters before using a 18-3 burst in the fourth to turn a four-point deficit into a 109-98 lead with 2:57 remaining.



Washington Wizards' Brendan Haywood (33) tries to stop New York Knicks' Stephon Marbury (3) during the first quarter, Friday, Dec. 10, 2004, in Washington.

Eddie Griffin added 18 points for Minnesota, and Sam Cassell scored 14 of his 15 points in the second half. Chris Webber had 25 points for the Kings.

76ers 93, Bulls 88

In Chicago, Allen Iverson had 23 points and 10 assists, and Samuel Dalembert had 13 points, 14 rebounds and six blocked shots in his first start of the season for Philadelphia, which ended an eight-game road losing streak with a win over Chicago.

The Bulls scored 10 unanswered points to get within 91-88 on Luol Deng's two free throws. Kirk Hinrich was called for a charge after making a driving layup with 1:00 left that would have cut the 76ers' lead to one point.

Iverson had a steal with 16 seconds

left, and Andre Iguodala hit two free throws to make it 93-88.

Bucks 95, Pacers 86

In Milwaukee, Michael Redd scored 21 points and Mike James added 16 as Milwaukee handed Indiana its sixth straight loss.

The victory, Milwaukee's second over Indiana in four days, helped the Bucks (6-11) avoid their worst starting record in a decade, a 5-12 mark to begin the 1994-95 season.

Milwaukee, which had lost nine of its previous 11 games, also got 13 points from Maurice Williams and 12 from Desmond Mason.

Indiana was led by Reggie Miller's 17 points, 10.5 below his average, and Austin Croshere had 14 off the bench.

Suns 115, Bobcats 106

In Phoenix, Amare Stoudemire came close to the first triple-double of his career with 36 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists, and Phoenix edged New Orleans.

The victory was the Suns' fourth in a row, 13th in their last 14 games and gave them a 17-3 record—tying Seattle for the best in the NBA—on the one-year anniversary of Mike D'Antoni taking over as head coach.

Shawn Marion and Quentin Richardson each added 20 points for Phoenix, which exceeded its NBA-high average of 108.6 points per game. Joe Johnson scored 12 points and Steven Hunter 10, with Steve Nash contributing nine points and 14 assists.

The expansion Bobcats were led by former Phoenix point guard Brevin Knight's season-high 17 points.

Magic 113, Warriors 109

In Oakland, California, Steve Francis scored a season-high 36 points and also finished with eight rebounds and eight assists in Orlando's fifth win in six games.

Francis shot 11-for-26 and made all 14 of his free throws, carrying the load as Grant Hill sat out with a badly bruised right shin.

Tony Battie had 16 points and matched his career high with 15 rebounds, Cuttino Mobley added 15 points and Hedo Turkoglu scored 14 off the bench.

Jason Richardson finished with 27 points, Mike Dunleavy scored 22 points and Speedy Claxton had 19 points and five assists for the Warriors.

Jazz 92, Trail Blazers 87

In Salt Lake City, Matt Harpring scored 17 points, including six in overtime, as Utah beat Portland to snap a six-game losing skid and avoided its first seven-game skid since 1981-82.

Attempting to tie the game in the final minute of overtime, Zach Randolph missed in the lane and Mehmet Okur stripped Shareef Abdur-Rahim after he grabbed the offensive rebound. Carlos Arroyo made one free throw and Harpring hit two to clinch the win in the last 18 seconds.

Carlos Boozer scored 17, Okur had 14 and Kirk Snyder recorded a career-high 13 points for the Jazz, who had lost three in a row at home and 10 of 12 overall.

Zach Randolph led the Blazers with 23 points.

No. 17 Iowa fends off Iowa St., 70-63

By **CHUCK SCHOFFNER**
AP SPORTS WRITER



IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP)—Adam Haluska scored 20 points against his former team and No. 17 Iowa fended off a late run by Iowa State for a 70-63 victory Friday night.

Down by 11 midway through the second half, Iowa State (4-2) rallied behind Jared Homan and Will Blalock and drew to 61-60 on Homan's two free throws with 2:06 remaining.

But Iowa's Greg Brunner hit a shot

down low and the Hawkeyes (8-1) made enough free throws in the final minute to hold on.

Haluska, who started as a freshman at Iowa State in the 2002-03 season before transferring, scored 10 points in the first 9 1/2 minutes and finished 7-for-13 from the field, including 4-for-8 on 3-pointers.

He fouled out with 21 seconds left, leaving to chants of "Thanks for Adam" from Iowa fans.

Pierre Pierce added 15 points for Iowa, Jeff Horner scored 12 and Brunner had 11 to go with 13 rebounds.

Homan led Iowa State with a ca-

reer-high 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. Blalock scored 15 and combined with Homan for 16 of the Cyclones' final 18 points.

Iowa State rallied even though its best player, Curtis Stinson, fouled out with 7:56 left. Stinson finished with 14 points after scoring 30 in an 81-79 victory over No. 19 Virginia on Monday night.

Iowa led 52-41 after Haluska fed Pierce for a dunk on a fast break, and the Hawkeyes were still in control when Pierce converted a three-point play to make it 61-54 with 4:36 left. Homan then scored the next six

points to get Iowa State within one, forcing Iowa coach Steve Alford into a timeout.

The Hawkeyes then isolated Brunner on the right side and he scored on a strong move to the basket to make it 63-60 with 1:48 to play. Horner's free throw with 18.4 seconds left made it 67-63 and Brunner swiped the ball from Blalock seconds later and made a free throw, ending the Cyclones' final hopes.

Haluska wasted no time getting started against his old team, hitting 3-pointers 30 seconds apart to give the Hawkeyes an 8-2 lead just 1:15 into the game. His jumper at the 16:10

mark made it 13-7 and he scored on a baseline drive with 10:31 remaining for a 21-15 lead.

Iowa State threw the ball away several times in transition before settling down and finally tied it at 22 on Blalock's free throw. The Cyclones pulled into another tie at 30 when Blalock banked in a high-arching shot over 6-foot-11 Erik Hansen, but they never could get the lead.

Haluska's 3-pointer triggered a 7-0 run that enabled Iowa to stretch its 34-32 halftime lead to 41-32. But the Hawkeyes couldn't finish off the Cyclones until the end.

Teams eye free agents at winter meetings

By RONALD BLUM
AP SPORTS WRITER

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Just down the road from the Magic Kingdom, major league teams toyed with trades and focused on free agents as the winter meetings began Friday.

Russ Ortiz, Steve Finley and Richard Hidalgo found new teams and David Wells closed in on an agreement to join the Boston Red Sox.

While there no trades announced, Arizona set the free-agent pace for the second straight day, agreeing to a \$33 million, four-year contract with Ortiz in an effort to complement Randy Johnson in its starting rotation.

Finley, who started last season with the Diamondbacks and finished it with the Dodgers, moved down Interstate 5, agreeing to a \$14 million, two-year contract with the Anaheim Angels.

The Texas Rangers agreed to a \$5 million, one-year deal with right fielder Richard Hidalgo, who split last season between Houston and the New York Mets. And the Florida Marlins reached preliminary agreements with relievers Antonio Alfonseca and Todd Jones.

Wells, who called Yankees general manager Brian Cash-

man just Thursday, was closing in Friday night on an \$8 million, two-year deal with the Red Sox, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said on condition of anonymity. The deal would contain performance bonuses that could make it worth \$18 million over two years.

It would be a stunning turnaround for the 41-year-old left-hander, an outspoken Yankees fan who spent four years with New York over two tours. Boston, coming off its first World Series title since 1918, also hopes to re-sign Pedro Martinez and Jason Varitek.

"I'm sure before all the players are off the board, there will be players for whom the price is right for the Boston Red Sox," Boston GM Theo Epstein said.

As for the biggest names, agents appeared to be holding back, waiting for the market to rise even higher.

"When you look at last year's attendance growth, all those things put more money in the marketplace," Mets general manager Omar Minaya said.

Carlos Beltran, Adrian Beltre, Varitek and Derek Lowe are represented by Scott Boras, whose clients have not reached deals until later in the offseason in recent years.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman expected to

talk Friday night with Boras and with other top agents during the weekend, including Scott Shapiro, who represents Carl Pavano. Cashman also said Yankees pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre and staff ace Mike Mussina were to have called Pavano in the past week.

"He just needs some time to see where his heart is," Shapiro said.

Anaheim, Baltimore, Boston, Detroit and Seattle also are competing for Pavano, who pretty much has ruled out returning to the Marlins.

"At this point in time, I'd say it's very slim," Shapiro said. "Ultimately, I don't know if they have the financial resources to compete as the market has matured to a certain level."

New York is close to an agreement with Jaret Wright on a \$21 million, three-year deal, and Cashman would like to get at least one other starting pitcher this weekend. The Yankees also have been talking with Eric Milton.

Sammy Sosa, Mike Piazza, Barry Zito, Tim Hudson and Shawn Green have all been mentioned in trade talk, but it appears Johnson and Kevin Brown won't be going anywhere soon.

The Diamondbacks said Friday that while Johnson had



AP
Jeff Moorad, right, representing the Arizona Diamondbacks, presents a jersey to new Diamondbacks pitcher Russ Ortiz, during a news conference in Anaheim, Calif., Friday, Dec. 10, 2004.

amounts of deferred payments in past contracts and coming off an 111-loss season, was thought to be on a tight budget. But the Diamondbacks agreed Thursday to a \$45 million, four-year deal with third baseman Troy Glaus, the 2002 World Series MVP with Anaheim. Then came the

the title the following year. Both have struggled since.

By adding the 39-year-old Finley, the Angels can move Garret Anderson to left field, where he played in 2002.

"Hey, I'm still in Los Angeles, right? Just wearing a different color," Finley said.

Finley, who turned down a \$17 million, three-year offer from the Giants, was a key factor as the Dodgers advanced to the playoffs for the first time since 1996. He hit .263 with 13 homers and 46 RBIs in 58 games after the July 31 trade, finishing at .271 overall with 36 homers and 94 RBIs.

"This is something that came together for us fairly quickly," Angels general manager Bill Stoneman said. "Once we took a look at it, we said, 'This is a natural.'"

Anaheim appears to be out of the competition for Beltran, who is being pursued by the Yankees, Houston and Chicago Cubs.

"Beltran's a special player," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "I'm not going to say that Beltran wouldn't have been a good fit on our club. He would be a fit on any club. But for our needs and what we're looking for, now we can use the resources that Bill has to fill more spots. If you sign Beltran, you're pretty much done for the winter."

Monty ties for lead at Target Challenge

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP)—Colin Montgomerie was tied for the lead and bracing for the worst.

Montgomerie parlayed a brilliant start into a 5-under 66 on Friday in the Target World Challenge, giving him a share of the lead with tournament host Tiger Woods and a Saturday challenge he knows all too well.

"It is different to play with Tiger," Montgomerie said. "I've just got to concentrate on my own game. I'm not going to beat Tiger. I'm not going to outdrive him. I'm not going to hit better iron shots, and I'm not going to chip the ball better and I'm not going to putt better. The only way I'm going to beat Tiger is by scoring well."

The 41-year-old Scot has done that quite nicely over two days at Sherwood.

Montgomerie birdied five of his first seven holes to take command, turned a bogey into a birdie by chipping in on the par-5 16th and would have had the lead all to himself except for the 18th hole.

From the middle of the fairway, he came off a 7-iron just enough for the ball to come up short into the hazard. Monty still managed to get up-and-down from the fairway for a bogey, putting him at 9-under 133.

Woods had to save par on three of his opening four holes, but then started firing at flags and made five birdies during a

six-hole stretch in the middle of his round. His only complaint was one birdie on the par 5s, and he lost a chance to take the outright lead when his 15-foot birdie putt spun out of the cup on No. 18.

He also had a 66 to join Monty at 133.

"I left a few shots out there, but overall, I was pleased with how I hit the ball," Woods said.

They had a two-shot lead over Jay Haas (66) and Jim Furyk, who had a bogey-free 68.

Miguel Angel Jimenez of Spain was one shot out of the lead until he whiffed a sand wedge—the blade of the club slid under the ball and barely moved it—on the 16th, the start of a bogey-bogey-bogey finish for a 69 that put him with Padraig Harrington (69) four shots behind.

Woods and Montgomerie make for a good match in the final group.

They hold each other in high regard. In fact, Woods called Montgomerie himself to invite him to the \$5.25 million end-of-the-year party disguised as a golf tournament.

He is particularly impressed by the way Monty has played in the Ryder Cup.

"He outplayed everyone else," Woods said. "He outplayed everybody on our team. What he's done is pretty impressive. Plus, don't forget his resume with seven Order of

Merits. No one has ever come close to that."

Montgomerie thinks so much of Woods that at the 2000 Bay Hill Invitational, after Woods had opened with a 69, he was criticized for saying that everyone at Bay Hill figured the tournament was over and it was only a matter of who finished second.

"He's still intimidating," Montgomerie said Friday. "And that's not criticism—that's a compliment."

There relationship was not warm and fuzzy from the start.

It dates to another final pairing in the third round, only far more important—Saturday at Augusta National in 1997, when a 21-year-old Woods in his major championship debut as a professional had a three-shot lead over Monty.

The Scot, twice a playoff loser in the majors, suggested he had the advantage over Woods because of his experience in golf's biggest events.

It didn't turn out that way—Woods 65, Montgomerie 74—and Woods went on to win by 12 shots.

"He basically said that I didn't really have much of a chance because of my experience," Woods said. "But I felt like I was really playing well. I said to Fluff (his caddie that year), 'He may have said all of these things, but he hadn't won a major, either. So we're on the same ground.'"

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

| NBA STANDINGS | | | | Oswego St. 84, Nazareth, N.Y. 71 | Stephen Ames 74-69 143 |
|---|-------|-----|------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | Point Park 70, Roberts Wesleyan 64 | Kenny Perry 73-73 146 |
| | | | | Potsdam 95, Alfred 79 | |
| Atlantic Division | | | | St. John Fisher 74, Geneseo St. 56 | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB | |
| New York | 9 | 10 | .474 | — | |
| Boston | 7 | 11 | .389 | 1 1/2 | |
| Philadelphia | 7 | 12 | .368 | 2 | |
| Toronto | 7 | 15 | .318 | 3 1/2 | |
| New Jersey | 6 | 13 | .316 | 3 | |
| Southeast Division | | | | | |
| Orlando | 13 | 6 | .684 | — | |
| Miami | 14 | 7 | .667 | — | |
| Washington | 11 | 6 | .647 | 1 | |
| Charlotte | 4 | 13 | .235 | 8 | |
| Atlanta | 4 | 15 | .211 | 9 | |
| Central Division | | | | | |
| Cleveland | 12 | 7 | .632 | — | |
| Detroit | 10 | 9 | .526 | 2 | |
| Indiana | 10 | 9 | .526 | 2 | |
| Milwaukee | 6 | 11 | .353 | 5 | |
| Chicago | 3 | 14 | .176 | 8 | |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | |
| Southwest Division | | | | | |
| San Antonio | 16 | 5 | .762 | — | |
| Dallas | 13 | 8 | .619 | 3 | |
| Houston | 9 | 11 | .450 | 6 1/2 | |
| Memphis | 8 | 13 | .381 | 8 | |
| New Orleans | 1 | 17 | .056 | 13 1/2 | |
| Northwest Division | | | | | |
| Seattle | 17 | 3 | .850 | — | |
| Minnesota | 13 | 6 | .684 | 3 1/2 | |
| Denver | 12 | 7 | .632 | 4 1/2 | |
| Portland | 9 | 9 | .500 | 7 | |
| Utah | 9 | 11 | .450 | 8 | |
| Pacific Division | | | | | |
| Phoenix | 17 | 3 | .850 | — | |
| Sacramento | 13 | 6 | .684 | 3 1/2 | |
| L.A. Clippers | 11 | 7 | .611 | 5 | |
| L.A. Lakers | 10 | 8 | .556 | 6 | |
| Golden State | 5 | 14 | .263 | 11 1/2 | |
| Yesterday's Games | | | | | |
| Denver 101, Toronto 87 | | | | | |
| Washington 106, New York 104 | | | | | |
| Miami 92, Memphis 84 | | | | | |
| New Jersey 94, New Orleans 91, OT | | | | | |
| Philadelphia 93, Chicago 88 | | | | | |
| Atlanta 88, Detroit 72 | | | | | |
| Minnesota 113, Sacramento 105 | | | | | |
| Milwaukee 95, Indiana 86 | | | | | |
| Phoenix 115, Charlotte 106 | | | | | |
| Utah 92, Portland 87, OT | | | | | |
| Orlando 113, Golden State 109 | | | | | |
| COLLEGE BASKETBALL | | | | | |
| EAST | | | | | |
| Buffalo St. 85, D'Youville 75 | | | | | |
| East Stroudsburg 100, Briar Cliff 49 | | | | | |
| Gwynedd-Mercy 64, Valley Forge Christian 50 | | | | | |
| Harvard 85, Colgate 82, OT | | | | | |
| Hilbert 63, Medaille 59 | | | | | |
| Ithaca 66, St. Lawrence 58 | | | | | |
| Marist 83, Lafayette 79 | | | | | |
| Oneonta 76, Hartwick 60 | | | | | |
| SOUTH | | | | | |
| Arkansas Baptist 71, Freed-Hardeman 70 | | | | | |
| ETSU 65, Tennessee Tech 54 | | | | | |
| Missouri Baptist 72, Campbellsville 62 | | | | | |
| Oklahoma Christian 75, Union, Tenn. 65 | | | | | |
| Palm Beach Atlantic 77, Florida Memorial 59 | | | | | |
| Radford 97, Lees-McRae 77 | | | | | |
| MIDWEST | | | | | |
| Dakota St. 99, Valley City St. 78 | | | | | |
| Iowa 70, Iowa St. 63 | | | | | |
| Jamestown 82, Dickinson St. 68 | | | | | |
| Marian, Ind. 70, Wheaton, Ill. 67 | | | | | |
| Mary 79, Minot St. 69 | | | | | |
| Mayville St. 88, St. Tanka-Huron 62 | | | | | |
| Minn.-Mankato 73, N. Dakota St. 70 | | | | | |
| North Dakota 77, Bemidji St. 69 | | | | | |
| Piedmont 102, Greenville 87 | | | | | |
| South Dakota 92, Wayne, Neb. 75 | | | | | |
| St. John's, Minn. 81, Presentation 70 | | | | | |
| Wis.-Platteville 58, Wabash 35 | | | | | |
| SOUTHWEST | | | | | |
| Oklahoma St. 86, UAB 73 | | | | | |
| Ouachita 96, North Alabama 86 | | | | | |
| FAR WEST | | | | | |
| Cal St.-Fullerton 70, E. Washington 68, OT | | | | | |
| Colorado Mines 73, Western St., Colo. 50 | | | | | |
| Mesa, Colo. 82, Colorado Christian 70 | | | | | |
| Metro St. 82, Fort Lewis 73 | | | | | |
| Regis 74, Adams St. 49 | | | | | |
| TOURNAMENT | | | | | |
| Goaltenders Classic | | | | | |
| First Round | | | | | |
| Alma 85, Aurora 83 | | | | | |
| Franklin 121, Indiana-Northwest 84 | | | | | |
| Northwestern Mutual Shootout | | | | | |
| First Round | | | | | |
| Saint Joseph's 84, UC Davis 56 | | | | | |
| San Francisco 82, Longwood 49 | | | | | |
| Oneonta Holiday Inn Classic | | | | | |
| Semifinals | | | | | |
| Wesleyan, Conn. 71, RPI 66, OT | | | | | |
| TARGET WORLD CHALLENGE SCORES | | | | | |
| SECOND ROUND | | | | | |
| Colin Montgomerie | 67-66 | 133 | | | |
| Tiger Woods | 67-66 | 133 | | | |
| Jay Haas | 69-66 | 135 | | | |
| Jim Furyk | 67-68 | 135 | | | |
| Davis Love III | 70-66 | 136 | | | |
| Chris DiMarco | 69-67 | 136 | | | |
| Miguel Angel Jimenez | 68-69 | 137 | | | |
| Padraig Harrington | 68-69 | 137 | | | |
| Chad Campbell | 70-68 | 138 | | | |
| Fred Couples | 68-70 | 138 | | | |
| Stewart Cink | 70-69 | 139 | | | |
| John Daly | 73-69 | 142 | | | |
| Todd Hamilton | 73-69 | 142 | | | |
| Vijay Singh | 74-69 | 143 | | | |
| LOCAL SCORES | | | | | |
| GOVT. LEAGUE STANDINGS | | | | | |
| PSS | 5 | 0 | | | |
| DOL | 4 | 1 | | | |
| DCCA | 4 | 2 | | | |
| DPS I | 4 | 2 | | | |
| CHC | 4 | 2 | | | |
| Tinian | 1 | 1 | | | |
| NMC | 3 | 4 | | | |
| CPA | 2 | 3 | | | |
| P&S | 2 | 4 | | | |
| OPA | 1 | 3 | | | |
| DPS II | 1 | 4 | | | |
| Mayor's Office | 0 | 5 | | | |

The Week in Sports



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Father Ryan Jimenez, left, and Romy "Colonel" Sotto pose for the camera before their men's 4.0 singles match Tuesday. Jimenez won in straight sets.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Audrey Motto and Cleofe Santos, right, pose with Ligaya Paculanang and Merle Hudkins before their women's 4.0 championship of the Taga tourney Tuesday. Motto and Santos took home the title.



MARK RABAGO

Lito Cabrera, left, and partner Daniel Son exchange high-fives during their match against Peter Loyola and Roy Pangelinan in the men's open doubles of the 2nd Annual Taga Tennis Tournament Tuesday evening at the American Memorial Park tennis courts. Cabrera and Son lost in three sets.



MARK RABAGO

Chosyu Rikki awaits a tag from a Revolution Warriors teammate during the final match of The Clash of the Tropical Storm held last Dec. 4 at the Kan Pacific Baseball Field in Marpi.



MARK RABAGO

Tony Diaz of NMC goes up for a layup against DOL in their 2004 Government Basketball League game Monday. DOL won 92-88.



Edwin Maratas celebrates his opening round victory over veteran Elmer Guzman in the men's 4.5 division of the Taga tourney.

MARK RABAGO



MARK RABAGO

Revolution Warriors and Appachi tangle inside the ring in the early moments of the main event.

Wrestling world

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

The week in sports began with professional wrestling in Marpi and ended with good old basketball at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Professional wrestlers from Japan, the U.S., and Samoa joined forces to entertain a crowd of 1,000 in The Clash of the Tropical Storm last Dec. 4 at the Kan Pacific Baseball Field.

No less than Japanese pro wrestler Chosyu Rikki led the band of Herculean men in a

six-fight card that thrilled and wowed the crowd to high heavens. Not even a slight drizzle dampened the spirits of those who watched, as all went home with fond memories of the event.

A total of four games in only two doubleheaders were completed in the ongoing 2004 Government Basketball League last week, on account of a day off last Wednesday due to Constitution Day. Public School System continued to lead the pack with an immaculate 5-0 mark followed by Department of Labor, De-

partment of Community and Cultural Affairs, and Department of Public Safety I.

The 2nd Annual Taga Tournament of the Saipan Tennis Association also kicked off its singles and mixed doubles competition last Tuesday.

The week in sports also saw fast pitch and slow pitch get down at the Oleai Sports Complex, Saipan host the Christmas in the Marianas Outrigger Canoe Race, volleyball action in the Island Wide Volleyball League, and the Marianas Tourism Education Council Tank-to-Tank Aquathon take place.



BRAD E. RUSZALA

Crews in action during last weekend's 3rd Annual Christmas in the Marianas Outrigger Canoe Race.



Masters Construction Flyers pose for a team shot after their victory over Eliminators Monday in the SSA slow pitch league.

BRAD E. RUSZALA

DCCA

From Page 28

score all of his 10 points in the period, as NMC used a 27-21 windup to seal the win.

NMC's Diaz led all scorers with 39 points, followed by the 24 of Garcia. Rangamar paced DCCA in the loss with 20. Reyes had 16 and Peliseman added 14.

DCCA, however, put the game

under protest citing the ineligibility of one of the players from NMC.

In the second game, Commonwealth Health Center leaned on the 24 points of Ken Kalen and the inside might of Joe Tudela and Anthony Raho to beat Department of Public Safety II black and blue 86-65.

CHC had a total of five players finish in double figures with Tudela and Raho combining for 23 points not to mention

priceless rebounding and intimidation underneath the basket.

Former Ol' Aces great Jerry Ayuyu was the highpoint man for DPS II with 25 points with Ed Manalili coming up with 13.

The government league resumes tomorrow evening with DPS I facing DPS II in the 6:30pm first game. The 8pm second game then pits Office of Public Auditor against undefeated Public School System.

First Game

NMC 101 – T. Diaz 39, Garcia 24, R. Diaz 11, Palacios 10, J. Diaz 5. John 4, Duenas 4, Castro 3.

DCCA 89 – Rangamar 20, Reyes 16, Peliseman 14, Iginoef 13, Dela Cruz 11, Dikito 4, Tudela 3, Cabrera 3, Rogolofoi 3, Pua 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-30, 50-51, 74-68, 101-89.

Referees: Dado Vistal and Jess Pabula.

Second Game

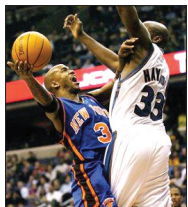
CHC 86 – Kalen 24, Seidler 14, Diaz 12, Tudela 12, Raho 11, Rabauliman 9, Guerrero 4, Duenas 1.

DPS II 65 – Ayuyu 25, Manalili 13, Hocog 8, Norita 7, Sablan 4, Ogomoro 3, Marcham 3, Stephen 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-11, 44-20, 68-39, 86-65.

Referees: Dado Vistal and Mike White.

Wizards edge Knicks, 106-104



Brendan Haywood atoned for two missed free throws by converting a three-point play off the Wizards' 27th offensive rebound with 7.1 seconds remaining Friday, giving Washington a 106-104 victory over the New York Knicks.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Wrestling world

The week in sports began with professional wrestling in Marpi and ended with good old basketball at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



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28 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2004

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Looking out for No. 1

Top seeds prevail in Taga tennis

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Five of the six seeded singles players advanced to the next round in the 2nd Annual Taga Tennis Tournament at the American Memorial Park tennis courts Friday evening.

Top seed Jess Pacheco needed three sets, two tiebreakers, and two days just to finish off men's 4.0 newcomer Mike Roberts.

The fiery veteran was hobbled by a foot injury the entire game and didn't get any sympathy from the crowd, who rooted almost to a man for the underdog Roberts.

Pacheco did salvage a win in the opening set that was highlighted by a line call argument that brought in an umpire to serve as the third man on the court.

Roberts used his longer reach and steady volleying skills to full potential in the second set to force a tiebreaker. Pacheco at this point was clearly frustrated not only by his lack of mobility but also by the throng of watchers siding with the American.

It was a nip-and-tuck tiebreak with Roberts eking out the win following an error by his opponent to force a third and deciding third set.

The rubber set was as fiercely fought as the first two. Roberts would go ahead 4-3 on a diving crosscourt drop shot. But the teacher paid a big

price for the acrobatic stunt as he fell down on the concrete, an obvious victim of cramps.

After a 15-minute injury timeout, Roberts tried to soldier on but couldn't control Pacheco's deep groundstrokes and short volleys, as the part-time basketball referee took the driver's seat 5-4. Pacheco was three points away from breaking Roberts and winning the protracted match in the 10th game when the first raindrops fell on the tennis court.

Officials eventually had to postpone the game as well as a handful of others when the slight drizzle turned into a torrent.

Pacheco and Roberts continued their match the next day and Roberts seemed to benefit the most from the rest. Roberts retook the lead, 6-5, against a still limping Pacheco and was serving for the match when Pacheco marshaled what's left of his reserves to force another tiebreak.

In the race-to-seven tiebreak, Pacheco would build on his momentum to take a 5-3 advantage. But Roberts was not going away quietly and won the next two points, 5-5. Pacheco came back to win the next point and needed one more to wrap up the match. Hoping for an ace, Pacheco settled for the next best thing, as Roberts found the net on his return to end the marathon match in a score of 7-5, 6-7 (6-8), 7-6 (7-5).

In the other men's 4.0 match that ended

Friday, fourth seed Cris Nelson defeated John Wayne Kentaro 6-2, 6-4.

Daniel Son had some nervous moments in his encounter with compatriot Alex Lee in the men's open. But the top seeded Korean went on to win 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

Nanding Cajigan and Buddy Garote also prevailed in the men's 4.5 division. Cajigan eased out mild-mannered Edwin Maratas in a marathon three-setter, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), while Garote outplayed Gannover Retin 6-1, 6-2.

Men's 3.0 top seed Gary Ramsey and fourth seed Doi Ligan of Tinian, meanwhile, barely escaped the upset axe against unseeded players.

Christophe Bertin surprised Ramsey in the opening set before the No. 1 seed dominated the next two to win 3-6, 6-1, 6-1. Yesman Gurung, on the other hand, tested Ligan to the hilt but Ligan came out on top 6-4, 6-2.

Second seed Father Ryan Jimenez wasn't as fortunate though, as he fell to baseliner Raj Rai in two hard-fought sets 7-5, 7-6 (7-5).

Qiu Yong Zhe was again brilliant in his second round assignment against Vener Urena, almost repeating his opening round shutout with 6-0, 6-1 victory.

In the mixed double 3.0, the pair of Manny Jaraplasan and Merli Hudkins turned back Ricky Castro and Asun Demapan 6-3, 6-4. Ligaya Paculanang and Lemuel Arabelo also were victorious in their game against Phil Kalen and Elen Uy.



MARK RABAGO

Top seed Jess Pacheco, left, talks to Mike Roberts after their men's 4.0 division match Friday in the 2nd Annual Taga Tennis Tournament.

DCAA falls to defending champs

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER



Northern Marianas College got back into the winning track, as the defending champions waylaid a cold-shooting Department of Community and Cultural Affairs team, 101-89, in the 2004 Government Basketball League Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

DCCA actually got off to a good start, as Joey Dela Cruz, Elias Rangamar, John Reyes, and Ben Peliseman knocked in five points or more, giving them a 30-25 advantage going into the second canto.

NMC began to have some success in the second however, as DCCA's shooting woes started. With one-man fastbreak Tony Diaz going off for nine points and 3-point specialist Jester Garcia chipping in six, NMC trailed by only half a bucket, 50-51, at halftime.

Diaz then totally went berserk in the third quarter, and coupled with DCCA's continued putrid shooting, NMC built a 74-68 spread entering the fourth and final canto.

DCCA's shooting would go from bad to worse in the payoff period. And to make matters worst, NMC found an offensive spark from guard Dave Palacios. Palacios would

See DCAA on Page 27

Elias Rangamar of DCCA eludes Ray Diaz of NMC in their 2004 Government Basketball League game Friday night.

MARK RABAGO



Christmas in the Marianas Walk on Thursday

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Saipan Walking Association, Inc., in cooperation with the Marianas Visitors Authority, would be holding its 2004 Christmas in the Marianas Walk on Thursday, Dec. 18.

The walking activity will start at 5:30pm from the Chamolinian Cultural Village and will take participants from the Garapan landmark to the Oleai area in San Jose and back for the 10-kilometer walk. A shorter 5km course is also being offered for children.

"As we prepare for the Yuletide season, once again, we would like to invite the public to join our annual Christmas walk," said SAIWAI officer and walk coordinator Mario K. Espeleta. "The event is the last edition of our 2004 'people sport-walking activity' and we are privileged and honored if people come out and join the walk."

A registration fee of \$10 will be charged to each participant, which will entitle walkers to a beautiful event T-Shirt. Free refreshments and fireworks will also highlight the night after the walk, said Espeleta.

Like all SAIWAI activities, the International Federation of Popular Sports or IVV will be sanctioning the Christmas in the Marianas Walk.

IVV members will also receive credit for joining the event. The IVV has member-walking clubs in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Japan, South Korea, Turkey, Nepal, Australia, New Zealand, the CNMI and 29 other European countries.

For more information regarding the Christmas in the Marianas Walk, please contact Espeleta at 322-8876.

SAIWAI was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 27, 2001 and was established to promote public health through non-competitive walking.

